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Possibilities for Effecting Savings

Adjustments in present overseas tour policies and practices would appear to effect savings in the following areas:

1. Travel Time

Although it is possible to fly anywhere in the world in approximately one day or less, Agency employees during Fiscal Years 1965 and 1966 took an average of two and one-half days official travel time going to their assigned posts and six and one-half days returning. If the allowable travel time was computed on the basis of air travel or allowing maximum of two days for round-trip travel to and from overseas, there would be possible savings of over [REDACTED] To realize such savings, it would be necessary either to require all employees to travel by air or to restrict them to air travel time regardless of the means of transportation used. It is doubtful that the Agency should adopt such a policy for the following reasons:

(a) For a number of years the Agency has allowed, and at times encouraged, employees to return from overseas by surface transportation or by indirect routing as a convenient means of providing for needed rest and recuperation and foreign area orientation.

2. Short of Tour Returnees

The majority of employees returned short of tour were returned for the convenience of the Government to meet priority requirements in other areas of the world--primarily Vietnam--or for other operational reasons. A few were returned for compassionate or disciplinary reasons.

3. Length of Tour

Changes in Agency policy which would lengthen present tour and home leave "break" practices offer interesting possibilities for savings in time and efficiency. For example, based on a 24-month tour, the employee travel and transportation costs to and from an overseas post averaged approximately \$8,600, and nine man-days in travel time were used. The annual travel and transportation costs for the over [REDACTED] 25X9A2 employees in the study were in excess of [REDACTED] and 25X9A2 there were [REDACTED] used in travel time. Thus, if the Agency's overseas tours were lengthened one year, a potential annual savings in travel and transportation costs of approximately [REDACTED] dollars 25X9A2 and a savings of [REDACTED] of travel time would ultimately result. However, a major portion of these potential savings could never be

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realized because

(a) it would be inadvisable to lengthen the tours at the less favorable and hardship posts, and

(b) there are many employees who have served considerably longer than the 26 months average.

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